

# *The Flying Badger*

440th Airlift Wing, General Mitchell ARS, Milwaukee Wisconsin

June 2004 Volume 56, No. 6



Core Values - Excellence in all we do  
*see page 3*



photo by Capt. Keith Leistikow  
Master Sgt. Jessica Johnson, 440th law office manager and West Allis Police Department D.A.R.E./patrol officer, provided her expertise and assistance to AFRC's True Blue campaign.

See related stories on pages 3 and 8.

## The Flying Badger

June 2004 Volume 56 Number 6

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**Wing Commander**  
Col. Michael L. Smith

**Director, Public Affairs**  
Dennis J. Mehring

**Wing Chief, Public Affairs**  
Maj. Ann Peru Knabe

**Editor**  
Senior Airman Denise Quasius

**Public Affairs Staff**  
Capt. Keith Leistikow  
Master Sgt. Robert R. Reeve  
Staff Sgt. Steve Staedler  
Senior Airman Deanne Perez  
Ann F. Skarban  
Liz A. Stoeckmann  
JoAnn Lindner  
Heidi Bultman

**Office of Public Affairs**  
440th Airlift Wing  
300 East College Avenue  
General Mitchell ARS, WI 53207-6299

Phone: 414-482-5481  
FAX: 414-482-5913  
www.afrc.af.mil/440aw

# What a ride!

by Col. Donald Bahr  
440th Inspector General

I have one last chance to write an article for the "Command Perspective." I want to use it to say thank you to all the members of the 440<sup>th</sup> for letting me serve with you all these years. I know I could never give back to the 440<sup>th</sup>, or the Air Force, all that I have received; but I hope that in some way I have made a small contribution to making the wing better.

My ride started more than 38 years ago; I was a hayseed from Wisconsin that had recently graduated from high school. I was not a stellar student, nor did I have any great aspirations beyond having a good time. There was a thing going on at that time... they called it Vietnam, and I thought it might be a good idea to get involved so I enlisted in the Air Force.

That one decision turned the focus of my life around and set the direction for the rest of my life. I was 19 years old when I was adopted by the Air Force family and assigned to the Military Airlift Command as a command post technician. The Air Force gave me more responsibility than a reasonable person would ordinarily give to a teenager. That four-year ride sent me to locations across the United States and overseas tours in Japan and the Philippine Islands. I went from a worker, to a trainer to a supervisor. It turned an immature young man who was concerned about driving his car out of the county (for fear of getting lost) to a confident young adult that could deploy anywhere in the world and conduct his mission. It provided me with a focus to do something with my life. It provided me with the desire (and funds) to pursue an education. It provided me with pride, a feeling of accomplishment and it made me part of a special family of professionals that affects everything I do.

I was discharged from active duty in March 1970 and two months later I was adopted and brought back into the Air Force family by the 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing as a staff sergeant in the 95<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron. Since that time I was given the chance to progress to technical sergeant; earned my officer's commission and serve as a weapons controller; finance officer; training officer; personnel officer; mission support squadron commander; vice support group commander and now as the inspector general.

I have been extremely fortunate in my career. It did not come from being more intelligent than the next guy; nor did it come from extensive career planning. My success came from the efforts of all the men and women of the Air Force that I have had the privilege to work with. I'm including the "nasty" TI in basic training, the NCO's and officers that I first came in contact with and all the people who provided the instruction and direction that helped the little hayseed mature.



Col. Donald Bahr

My good fortune is a by-product of the support of the men and women of the 440<sup>th</sup>, past and present that adopted me into their family; the individuals who encouraged me to continue with my education and the individuals that provided me with the challenges that helped me grow. The men and women that worked with me as I assumed leadership roles helped make me successful. If it was not for their hard work, dedication and professionalism, I could never have succeeded. Today I look around and see sons and daughters of the individuals who mentored and encouraged me. I can honestly say I have never felt alone in anything I have ever tried to accomplish at the 440<sup>th</sup>. I have always felt part of the team and found overwhelming support.

So what's my point? If a hayseed from northern Wisconsin can do it...you can too! We are all part of a dynamic and supportive family that will guide, challenge and provide you the resources needed to meet your goals. Use the opportunities that are open to you, and support each other in these trying and tenuous times. Doing your job well supports the wing and places all of us on a higher plateau. The Air Force core values serve as a road map to get you to your destination. I would like to share a few mottos that I have used during my career to pursue my goals with apologies to a certain shoe maker:

**Just!** Get outta bed! Get a Life! Laugh! Sweat! Go like hell! Have Fun! Dream! **Do IT!!**

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the effort and support I have received from you. The men and women of the 440<sup>th</sup> truly are the best of the best.

I salute you all. Take care of one another. God speed you on your way as you continue your mission in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I will remain an avid supporter of you from the home front.

# Excellence in all we do... Good enough is never good enough

by Col. Mike Pierce  
Vice Commander, 440 AW

**E**xcellence in all we do inspires a vision of the legendary Vince Lombardi and his winning football team, the Green Bay Packers. He is famous for excellence in football. He is often quoted and my favorite is: "The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence regardless of their chosen field of endeavor."

The Air Force core values are the foundation of an enduring and successful organization. We discuss core values so that every Airman can visualize and practice these values.

Traits that include product-service excellence, personal excellence, interpersonal excellence, personnel excellence, and organizational excellence. Air Force members cannot accept the status quo.

This is the challenge to senior NCOs and officers ... translating core values into an image and regular routine for our young Airmen.

When young Airmen understand and practice Air Force core values, they develop a lasting bond with the organization. This bond drives the team to greater goals and continued success.

How do we visualize *excellence*?

Low golf score, big paycheck or shiny car?

Excellence is visualized by taking an ideology and translating it into action. For me, excellence is exceeding standards and pursuing perfection.

I'm not satisfied with meeting the standards. The pursuit of a task completed to perfection is my goal.

Excellence is accomplished with various methods. Most importantly, excellence becomes an expectation all the time.

To excel you must recognize excellence as a goal and then establish a plan to pursue that goal.

As someone once said, "Every job is a self-portrait of the person who does it. Autograph your work with excellence."

## There are four reasons why we recognize Air Force core values

- Core values tell us the price of admission to the Air Force itself.
- Core values point to what is universal and unchanging in the profession of arms.
- Core values help us get a fix on the ethical climate of the organization.
- Core values serve as beacons vectoring us back to the path of professional conduct.



photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer  
440th Airlift Wing Vice Commander Col. Mike Pierce

## Air Force core values

INTEGRITY  
SERVICE BEFORE SELF  
EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO



# Ethics rules limit gift-giving to superiors

by Patricia A. Myles  
Staff Judge Advocate's Office

Sometimes it's appropriate to give your boss a gift and sometime it's not.

Federal ethics rules set some definite limits on giving gifts to supervisors. Under the ethics rules, a "supervisor" is an individual who supervises others and is above an employee in the employee's chain of command. This definition is not limited to the employee's immediate supervisor, but anyone higher up in the chain of command. A "gift" is any item having monetary value, including meals, transportation, lodging, services, favors and discounts. A gift does not include cards, certificates, plaques with little intrinsic value, or modest items of food and drink that are offered not as part of a meal (such as donuts, coffee, soft drinks and hors d'oeuvres).

As a basic rule, an employee may not give a gift to the supervisor, unless it falls under the rules for occasional gifts, or special occasion gifts. Routine gifts (for example, buying the boss lunch every Friday) are not permitted. The rules for occasional or special occasion gifts are:

## Occasional gifts

Occasional gifts are gifts given on an infrequent, but reoccurring, basis. An example might be Bosses' Day, the supervisor's birthday, Christmas or other holidays, or any other infrequent occasion when gifts are traditionally given.

Occasional gifts may be given to supervisors on an occasional basis. Gifts on occasional basis must comply with these rules:

- A gift may be presented, but it must have a sum total of \$10 or less (however, cash may never be given). An employee cannot present several gifts each costing less than \$10 — \$10 is the maximum for all gifts from the employee to the supervisor.

- In addition to a gift of \$10 or less, food that is shared by office personnel (for example, a birthday cake) may be presented.

- Personal hospitality of the type and value the employee normally provides to personal friends is allowed (e.g., inviting the boss home for dinner) and may be offered in addition to a gift of \$10 or less.

- Leave transferred under Volunteer Leave Transfer Program (but not to immediate supervisors) is not considered a gift.

- Employees may **not** solicit other employees to contribute toward an occasional gift.

## Special occasion gifts

Special occasion gifts occur on infrequently occurring occasions of personal significance, or occasions that terminate the supervisor-employee relationship. An example might be retirement or transfer, or might include the supervisor's marriage, death in family, or other special events.

On special occasions such as these, the following rules apply:

- Gifts from an individual or subordinate are allowed. There is no dollar limit, but the gift must be appropriate for the occasion. For example, giving a new car to the supervisor because she gave birth to her third child probably is not appropriate.

- A gift from a group containing one or more subordinates ("a donating group") is allowed as well. Generally these gifts may not exceed a total of \$300 in value. Different donating groups may not "pool" their money to buy a gift over the \$300 limit. For example, two groups each with \$250 may not combine their money to buy a gift for \$500. A supervisor may receive gifts from different donating groups, providing the members of each group are completely different. For example, a group commander who is retiring may receive a gift of up to \$300 from each squadron under his or her command.

- Employees **are** allowed to solicit contributions from other employees for a special occasion gift. It is also permissible to suggest a particular dollar amount. However, if an amount is suggested, employees must be told they are free to give less or nothing at all.

Further information on this subject is available in title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations, sections 2635.201-205. The base legal office (extension 5211) encourages anyone with a question on this issue to ask for guidance.

## Air Force Reserve assessing sexual assault response program

As part of the Air Force's review of sexual assault response programs, Air Force Reserve Command sent two teams out to assess Reserve units. The teams' focus is preventing sexual assault from occurring, ensuring there is adequate care available for victims, and verifying allegations are properly addressed.

One visiting AFRC team shared key messages with the 440th:

- Sexual assault is wrong. The policy is "zero-tolerance."
- We all need to be approachable if reservists contact us with concerns related to sexual assault. All reports will be taken seriously.
- Victims of sexual assault need to report the offense in a timely manner.
- As leaders, we need to understand situations where assault is more likely to occur.

Research indicates the use of alcohol increases chances of sexual assaults occurring as people lose their inhibitions when under the influence. Younger Airmen are more vulnerable to becoming victims of sexual assault, and stressful situations, such as deployments, may also lead to an increase in sexual assaults.

"We take any sexual assault allegations very seriously," said Col. Mike Smith, 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift wing commander. "Victims need to know that they should come forward and report any instances."

Sexual assault is a crime, and offenders will receive punitive actions. Victims of sexual assault should report the offense to Security Forces (482-5028) or the judge advocate (482-5211).



Photo courtesy of Walt Disney World

Lt. Col. Dennis T. Beatty, 95th AS, receives an American flag and other tokens of appreciation from Walt Disney World Ambassador Christopher Stewart recently at the Magic Kingdom. Beatty was invited to take part in the theme park's flag retreat ceremony and be presented with the flag to thank him and the 440th Airlift Wing for sending Walt Disney World a flag that had flown with them on numerous missions in Iraq. Beatty said the squadron, wanted to donate the flag to Disney for all it has done for the military.

# Running or not - here it comes!

*Reservist learns fitness test is no walk in the park*

by Staff Sgt. Steve Staedler

Well, I'm a failure.

Officially speaking I'm 'marginal' and a low marginal at that, but in the eyes of the Air Force's new physical fitness program, I need to add more fitness to my program.

Since I joined a local health club in February and have been following an exercise regimen three days a week, my confidence level was high about passing the physical assessment quite easily.

Gen. Custer was optimistic at Little Big Horn too.

Running day started out all right. After checking my measurements (6'2", 213, 37-1/2 inch waist), I teamed up with a partner to complete our pushups and sit ups. The score for these two elements is determined by how many an Airman can do in one minute. Each element accounts for 10 percent of the Airman's total composite score of 100. Of the final two tests, waist measurement equals 30 percent, and the 1.5 mile run accounts for the remaining 50 percent.

I thought my total of 34 pushups and 31 sit ups was OK, as I scored 8.0 and 7.20 points respectively in my age category. I did take a sizable hit on my waist measurement, receiving only 21.75 points out of 30. The real hurdle for me was the run at Cudahy High School's outdoor track, and I used to run hurdles in high school.

Turns one and two of lap one went well as I passed a few runners and established a good pace. The next 22 turns were a different story. In NASCAR terms I seemed to drop a cylinder on the backstretch, then another, and another. I finished with a time of 14:04, which gave me 34 points, for a combined total score of 70.90.

Admittedly my workout routines have included little running, and that cost me a "good" or "excellent" fitness standing. Airmen scoring in the marginal or poor categories must retest in six months.

Acting Command Chief Master Sgt. Lance Ward said Airmen scoring less than 70 are put on a self-paced fitness program and retest in six months. Commanders will conduct a fitness review panel twice a year to review all reservists with a score of less than 70 for more than a year. Commanders will take administrative action for members scoring less than 70 for more than 12 months and each subsequent score of less than 70 if members show no improvement.

Commanders do have the option however, to take administrative actions that range from verbal counseling to separation, on Airmen scoring less than 70 after 24 months.

If I can impart any advice to others it would



photos by Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer

<u>Fitness level</u>	<u>Total Score</u>
Excellent	90 or <
Good	75 - 89.9
Marginal	70 - 74.9
Poor	70 or less

For more information about the fitness program standards, visit the charts on-line at:

[www.af.mil/news/usaf\\_fitness\\_charts.pdf](http://www.af.mil/news/usaf_fitness_charts.pdf)



(Top) Staff Sgt. Warren Wruck, 440th Communications Flight, braves the cool weather to be in the first group of reservists to complete the Air Force's new fitness test. (Below) Wruck performs the push-up portion of the test.

be not to take the fitness test lightly. Get out and run 1.5 miles and see what your time is. Try doing a minute's worth of pushups and situps and see what your score is. These are things I failed to do and see how well I fared.

# Commanding Space

**Lt. Gen. Daniel Leaf, Space Command vice commander, discusses the future role of Guard and Reserve forces with The Flying Badger during visit to Gen. Mitchell ARS**

**Q** *What are some of the chief accomplishments of Space Command in its relatively short 22-year existence?*

**A** We've been doing Air Force space and missiles for 50 years. The capabilities we have brought through satellites, GPS, navigation and timing, have changed how we fight. Because of this we are far less destructive in combat. Our ability to communicate, navigate, time and then deliver weaponry very precisely has meant when we are forced to fight, we do it with much less death and destruction on both sides of the line.

**Q** *What strengths and benefits do the Guard and Reserve bring to Operation Iraqi Freedom?*

**A** The Guard and Reserve brought experience, manpower, and specific capabilities, but they also brought the connection with the American public. The active duty military is well supported by our communities; but our Guard and Reserve members have special ties where they come from, and that connection of hometown America with the war effort is critical. Most importantly, in some measure, they brought the American people.

**Q** *Looking down the road, how do you see the Guard and Reserve fitting in with the plans of Space Command?*

**A** The Guard and Reserve are very important to Space Command and we have been using both components for several years. Because of the high level of technical and scientific expertise required in several Space Command missions, the continuity of Guard and Reserve participation is key. It's not an area where you can afford much turnover because it takes a lot of time to get up to speed. Rocket science takes rocket scientists.

**Q** *What characteristics do you feel people need to possess to be successful in the military?*

**A** Commitment. They need to have a sense they are committed to some higher ideal than a job, and our core values talk about that. Any facet of military service in today's environment, in a nation at war as we are, can't just be a job, you have to have a sense that you are committed and that we're going to make the sacrifices that need to be made. And sacrifices need



*photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer*

Space Command Vice Commander Lt. Gen. Daniel Leaf, a native of Shawano, Wis., was the keynote speaker at the Wisconsin Club Armed Forces Dinner May 10.

to be made. We really want people to meet that higher quality with integrity, people who will be excellent all the time and are willing to serve something greater than themselves.

**Q** *What are some of the more significant changes you have seen over the span of your career?*

**A** The most significant change is that we have just gotten more professional. That's not to say the Air Force I entered 30 years ago wasn't good. We have just come so far. We have professional expertise across the board and it goes far past anything I recall when I was a lieutenant. Diversity of the Air Force population has also broadened a great deal. We are much more representative of American society.

**Q** *How does it feel to be back in the Badger state?*

**A** It feels great to come home. I've been blessed to do things, go places and reach levels I never dreamt of when I was here. But it was the foundation of down home Wisconsin and the inherent goodness in America that has prepared me for success. It's good to get back to my roots and a good reminder of how fortunate I've been.





From band concerts to dinner dances and everything else between, the 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing played a major role in making Milwaukee's Armed Forces Week a success. The photos above capture two of the week's 11 events. The Wisconsin Club Armed Forces Dinner celebrates its silver anniversary May 10. Lt. Gen. Daniel Leaf, Space Command vice commander, was the event's keynote speaker. The Civic Dinner Dance celebrates the relationship between Gen. Mitchell ARS and the South Shore Communities of Cudahy, Oak Creek, South Milwaukee and St. Francis. More than 300 people were on hand for the May 13 event. This year's honored community was St. Francis, and a C-130 aircraft was dedicated after the city.

*photos by Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer and Staff Sgt. Pat Kuminecz*

## General Bradley nominated to lead Air Force Reserve

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Maj. Gen. John A. Bradley has been nominated by the president to the Senate for promotion to lieutenant general and appointment as chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command.

Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, chief of Air Force Reserve and AFRC commander, relinquished command of AFRC during a ceremony here May 11.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper presided over General Sherrard's retirement, which takes effect June 1.

If General Bradley is not confirmed by June 1, Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr., AFRC vice commander,

will continue to lead the command until General Bradley is confirmed.

General Bradley is the assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for Reserve Matters in the Pentagon.

Other recent assignments since that December 2002 appointment include: deputy commander of Joint Task Force-Computer Network Operations, U.S. Space Command, Arlington, Va., from March 2002 to December 2002; commander of 10th Air Force, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, from February 1998 to March 2002; and deputy to the chief of Air Force Reserve, Headquarters Air Force, Washington, D.C., from February 1993 to February 1998.

The chief of Air Force Reserve serves as principal adviser on Reserve matters to the Air Force chief of staff. In the dual-hat role, the AFRC commander is responsible for supervising Air Force Reserve units worldwide.

General Bradley began his Air Force career in September 1967 as a mathematician and program analyst at Headquarters, Strategic Air Command, Offutt AFB, Neb.

He completed undergraduate pilot training at Sheppard AFB, Texas, in March 1970, and separated from the active force in April 1973 to join the Air Force Reserve at Barksdale AFB, La. (AFRC News Service)



**Maj. Gen. John A. Bradley**

# TRUE BLUE rollout a success at 440th ARS

by Master Sgt. Bob Reeve

The planned and promised debut of AFRC's TRUE BLUE campaign at Gen. Mitchell ARS during the May UTA went off without a hitch and early indications are that it was well received by 440th Airlift Wing members.

"We had a successful media campaign rollout," said Don Jenrette Jr., AFRC Substance Abuse Education and Prevention coordinator. "The turnout's been good," he added, shortly before the event concluded.

For the record, TRUE BLUE is AFRC's updated and modernized alcohol-drug abuse prevention and lifestyle improvement awareness and education initiative. Of key importance is that the campaign is not a finished product; it's a work in progress.

Col. Michael Smith, 440th Airlift Wing commander, volunteered to serve as the campaign's test unit for six months, beginning May 1. The kickoff consisted of a large display, with several interactive features, in the wing auditorium during the UTA. AFRC's objective was to get wing members to visit the display, to learn a thing or two and, perhaps most importantly, to act as critics. In other words, to evaluate what they had seen and heard and offer constructive criticism with respect to improving the campaign's content and presentation. Based on feedback from 440th members during the May UTA, AFRC would modify the campaign accordingly.

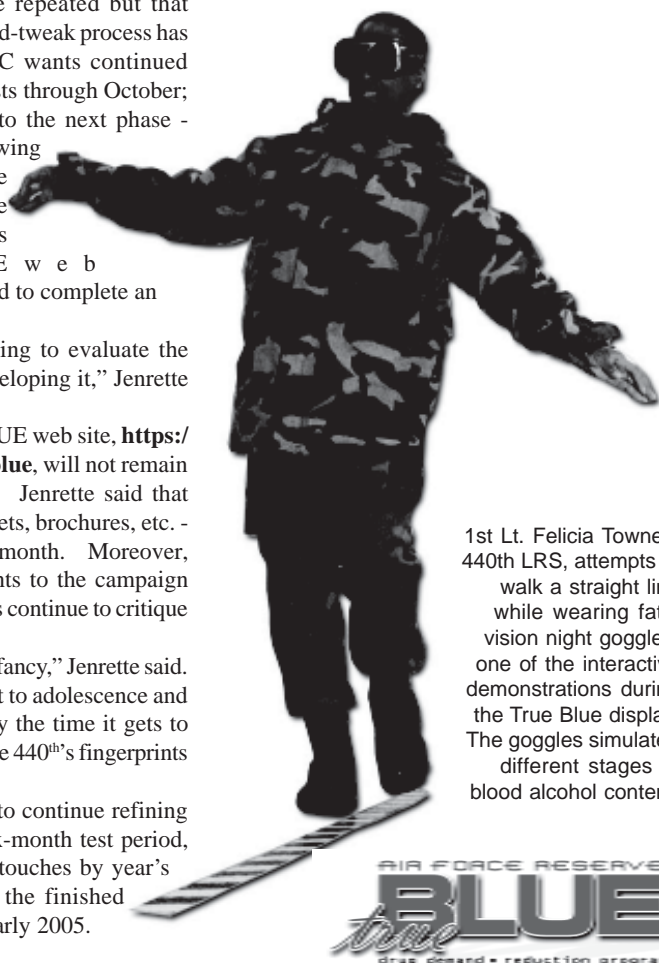
The display will not be repeated but that doesn't mean the critique-and-tweak process has ended. Far from it. AFRC wants continued feedback from 440th reservists through October; the method simply moves to the next phase - computers. Every time a wing member logs on to a base computer over the next five months, there will be a "heads up" to visit the TRUE BLUE web site, to browse through it and to complete an evaluation survey.

"440th members continuing to evaluate the campaign is vital to our developing it," Jenrette said.

What's on the TRUE BLUE web site, <https://www.mil.afrc.af.mil/trueblue>, will not remain the same month-to-month. Jenrette said that new media - videos, pamphlets, brochures, etc. - would be introduced every month. Moreover, AFRC will make refinements to the campaign each month as 440th members continue to critique it and provide input.

"The campaign is in its infancy," Jenrette said. "The 440th is helping to get it to adolescence and eventually to adulthood. By the time it gets to the rest of AFRC, it'll have the 440th's fingerprints all over it."

He said AFRC's goal is to continue refining the campaign during the six-month test period, then to apply the finishing touches by year's end and, finally, to unveil the finished product to all of AFRC in early 2005.



1st Lt. Felicia Townes, 440th LRS, attempts to walk a straight line while wearing fatal vision night goggles, one of the interactive demonstrations during the True Blue display. The goggles simulated different stages of blood alcohol content.

## What did you think of TRUE BLUE?



**SrA Yokona Bell, 440 LRS**

"Overall, the experience is outstanding. It's very informative - I enjoyed the pamphlets and video. At least it's not boring."



**A1C Josh Crouch, 440 MXS**

"It made me realize just how much you have to lose" (as a result of abuse or being irresponsible with alcohol). The videos were well done and informative. I'm a person who likes to be in control. I want to know what I am doing and have no regrets."



**2nd Lt. Pat Birschbach, 34th APS**

"I was very impressed with the experience. I can't imagine getting behind the wheel of a car intoxicated. It's nice to see that the Air Force is taking drinking and driving seriously. I would hate to see any of my friends or co-workers end up like the pictures I saw on the web site."



**MSgt Dana Ishman, 34th APS**

"The highlight is the video. For a change it shows a good cross-representation of Air Force personnel because for the first time in my many years in service, the video shows maintenance, transportation and cargo personnel versus the norm of the fast burners."



# Drunk Driving Accident Survivor...

*Reservist learns first hand the dangers of drunk driving*

by Senior Airman Deanne Perez

True Blue is a great program, but sometimes real-life examples can really make a message hit home. That's what Technical Sgt. Kevin Converse, an aircraft pneudraulic systems technician, 440 MXS, believes and it's why he shares his story today.

Unabashedly, he admits he was drinking, young and irresponsible. "The drinking age was 18 back then," he says and added that the bars opened at 10 a.m. that Saturday. Starting out early, he and his friends made lengthy stops at several different bars before heading home that evening.

Concerned for his safety, two friends followed Converse home and witnessed his accident firsthand. Converse said he passed out at the last turn before home and struck a tree head-on – blowing out his windshield and severing his carotid artery. His friends pulled him from the vehicle through the passenger side window and while one friend fainted at the sight of all the blood, the other ran to Converse's home for an ambulance and Converse's mother, the head nurse at the local hospital.

After surgery and three months of swelling and limited speech, the scars of that accident still show today. Furthermore, it wasn't Converse's last experience with a drunk driver. He was a passenger in the second accident that could have taken his life. The driver of the car, Converse and two others were in, had been drinking. He walked away from that incident without injury.

"After that second incident, I stopped drinking entirely," he says living by the 'three strikes and you're out' philosophy. "My best friend at one time was Mr. Al K. Hall (alcohol), but not anymore. He just wanted to ruin my life."

Described as a 'walking miracle' by some, his survival is nothing short of that. He feels the changes in drinking laws have been good ones and hopes others learn the lessons he learned the hard way.

"If I would've hit someone and killed them..." Converse reflects. "I couldn't live with myself. It's gnawed at my conscience to this day."

## Operating while Intoxicated

### Drunk drivers will pay the price

Drunk drivers will pay the price Wisconsin law hits hard when citizens are caught operating a car while intoxicated (OWI). Some of the penalties include:

- First offense: .08% blood alcohol level (BAC). Monetary fine of \$750 and six months suspension of driver's license.

- Second or third offense: .08 BAC. Besides a monetary fine, offenders can do jail time. The judge will take into account whether the person was cooperative, whether there was an accident, whether anyone was injured, and the level of BAC reading.

- Fourth offense: BAC drops to .02%. This is called absolute sobriety. The same factors of second and third offense apply.

- Fifth offense: .02% BAC. This is considered a felony. The police department will automatically seize the offender's car.

- The courts also make you complete an alcohol assessment program.

## The journey home may be long; but patience and resourcefulness pay off

by Senior Airman Deanne Perez

As a deployed service member, "You're going home!" is probably the most welcome phrase you can hear. But sometimes going home isn't easy. For Senior Master Sgt. Ernie Logeman, chief of avionics maintenance 440 MXS, homeward bound included nearly 50 hours of customs delays, aircraft malfunctions and missed flights.

"It's interesting to see how resourceful one becomes when one wants to get home," Logeman said when recalling his recent return from Kuwait. He noted the various degrees of frustration different people displayed because of the experience, particularly when handling families back home that were trying to anticipate arrivals.

They started out at 4:30 a.m. for pre-customs inspections and a trek to Kuwait City – where they were greeted with a delayed flight – travel out of Kuwait finally occurred at 11:30 p.m. Landing in Germany, they spent six hours waiting for a hydraulic malfunction on the plane to be taken care of. Thirty-six hours from this journey's onset, Logeman set foot on U.S. soil. Still far from home, his connecting flight was missed due to the delay in Germany and finding an alternative option proved daunting – it was Easter weekend.

At last, Logeman found a flight. Although it took him a little out of the way and dropped him off in the still dark portion of morning, he still considers himself lucky because others spent yet another night away from loved ones anticipating a flight home the next morning.

Overall, Logeman feels he was prepared for the journey. And he couldn't say enough positive things about the people he served with and those who remained behind and supported their mission.



Senior Master Sgt. Ernie Logeman fills the hours on the trip home by reviewing the flight manifest and letters from home.

"The experience was a new one," Logeman said. "...we were able to get over problems and as a result the mission happened."

## NEWS & NOTES

### Newcomers

1st. Lt. Megan Leduc	440 MDS
SSgt. Hugo Armendariz	440 SFS
SSgt. Kenneth Long	440 MDS
SrA William Briscolino	440 MXS
SrA Scott Brown	440MDS
SrA Kyle Franck	440 CES
SrA Wallead Luqman	440 LRS
SrA Keenan Mayweather	440 MDS
SrA Heather Muedini	440 MDS
SrA Jason Nichols	440 MOF
SrA Timothy Ralston	440 SFS
SrA Heather Schlitt	440 AW
SrA Bruce Sherwood	440 SFS
SrA John Thompson	440 MXS
A1C Jennifer Carpenter	34 APS
A1C Martin Dunovsky	440 AW

### Reenlistments

SMSgt. Gerald Fox	34 APS
MSgt. Gregory Stevenson	440 MXS
MSgt. Charles Thorstenson	34 APS
TSgt. Debra Cwiklinski	440 LRS
TSgt. Michelle Davis	34 APS
TSgt. Joseph Kolinski	95 AS
TSgt. Dale Mitchell	34 APS
TSgt. Christopher Thorn	440 SFS
SSgt. Ronnie Glaser	440 LRS
SSgt. Mario Nonnenmann	440 SFS
SSgt. Sandra Stai	440 SFS
SSgt. Mark Weger	440 SFS
SrA Benjamin Mursau	440 MDS
SrA Andrew Orlandini	440 SFS
A1C Dominic Harris	440 SFS
AB David Long	440 CES
AB Ryan Marin	440 CES
AB Dean Nelson	440 CES

### Retirements

SMSgt. David J. Firgens	440 CES
SMSgt. Brian D. Walker	440 CES
MSgt. Jacqueline M. Veesebabich	440 OSF
TSgt. John P. Heidemann	34 APS
SSgt. Michael P. Kintz	440 OSF
SSgt. Karl F. Williams	440 SFS

### Chaplain services

Catholic Mass will be held at the 95th Airlift Squadron, Saturday, June 5, at 2:30 p.m. Protestant service has been canceled for the June UTA because Chaplain Derek Wolter needed to reschedule.

The Flying Badger will have a standing column with times and locations of services.

If your squadron would like to host, or if you have questions, contact the Chaplain's Office (414) 452-5225.

### Promotions

*The following individuals have been promoted to the indicated rank:*

CMSgt. Robert Manske	440 AW
SMSgt. James Orze	440 AW
TSgt. Bethany Landsverk	440 SVF
TSgt. Richard Rehbock	440 MDS
TSgt. Kenneth Smith	34 APS
SSgt. Gregory Augustine	440 MXS
SSgt. Sean Goggins	440 LRS
SSgt. Chad Lawrence	440 AW
SSgt. Ian Lindauer	440 SFS
SSgt. Paul Torres	34 APS
SSgt. Matthew Wallner	440 SFS
SSgt. Keith White	440 CF
SrA Jermaine Belcher	440 LRS
SRA Wayne Foy	440 MXS
SrA Jonathan Morgan	440 MXS
SrA William Welter	440 SFS
SrA Christopher Williams	440 MXS
SrA Bryan Zdancewicz	440 MXS
A1C Kimberly Beecher	440 MSF
A1C Timothy Darling	440 SFS
A1C Sarah Gamm	440 SFS
A1C Adam Schroeder	440 SFS
A1C Kyle Umentum	440 SFS
Amn Navida Cross	440 MOF
Amn John Sundara	440 OSF
Amn Latasha Walker	440 MOF

### Civilian Employment Information (CEI) program

DOD recently announced the start of the Civilian Employment Information (CEI) program. The CEI program establishes, for the first time, mandatory individual Reserve component member disclosure of their civilian employer into a common department-wide database.

Implementation of the CEI program culminates a yearlong effort to establish a DOD-wide system to capture and understand who employs the 1.2 million members of the Armed Forces Reserve.

Guard and Reserve members are required to register information about their civilian employer and job skills, in order for the Department of Defense to meet three different requirements defined in law. The Department of Defense is required to: give consideration to civilian employment necessary to maintain national health, safety and interest when considering members for recall; ensure that members with critical civilian skills are not retained in numbers beyond those needed for those skills, and; inform employers of reservists of their rights and responsibilities under the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act.

Members of the Air Force Reserve can begin entering their employer data on a new Defense Manpower Data Center web site, at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/Guard-ReservePortal>.

### Nominations due for 440th awards

The Family Readiness Office is accepting nominations for the 4th annual Spouse of the Year Award and the 1st 440th Trooper Award.

The Trooper Award is a new award that recognizes someone who has made a significant contribution to your career or the Air Force.

To nominate an individual for the award you must submit a typed package, to include the following information: participation in base and community activities, voluntary service in Air Force related organizations and activities, voluntary service in community related organizations and activities, what has the person done that makes her or him an outstanding military spouse, in your eyes?

Nominations must include facts and specific accomplishments that clearly state the individual's contributions.

All nominations received will be reviewed by a panel of judges who will select the winner. The announcement will be made at the Family Day Picnic in August. For more information, please contact Susan Knauer at (920) 482-5424.

### Pay travel card bills on-line

Airmen with government travel cards may pay charges not covered by split disbursement through the "MyEasyPayment" system. System is at [www.myeasypayment.com](http://www.myeasypayment.com). Cardholders need to know the amount they want to pay, the account number and security code, checking account and bank routing numbers. Direct questions to the unit Agency Program Coordinator. Contact Financial Services at 482-5350 for Bank of America information.

### Donors needed for 440th Blood Drive

The need for blood never takes a summer break so donate your blood on Saturday, July 10 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the wing auditorium. Sign up in your unit orderly room or call Mary at 482-5440. Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh more than 110 lbs. Donors must bring a picture ID. Donation process takes about one hour. The blood drive benefits the Blood Center of Southeast Wisconsin, the only supplier of blood and blood products to hospitals in the area. People who recently deployed to Central Command AOR are not eligible to donate.

### Drop Zone expansion on hold

A planned \$200,000 expansion of The Drop Zone has been put on hold until a feasibility study can be done. Construction was supposed to start this spring, but the cost to complete the project came in higher than expected. If the study shows the expansion is warranted, construction may then proceed.

# New O-1 a case study in diversity

by Master Sgt. Bob Reeve

Why would a 34-year-old with three master's degrees and a doctorate who's fluent in three languages join AFRC as an airman basic?

"To serve the country," Tarkeshwar Singh said matter-of-factly, without batting an eyelash. "If I hadn't enlisted when I did, I would have become too old and felt guilty about not joining."

As a 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing enlisted man with advanced degrees, Singh was an anomaly, to be sure. He's also a case study in diversity.

He enlisted in 2001. He wanted to be an officer but the wing had no officer vacancies at the time. He was content to serve in the enlisted ranks and bide his time until an officer opening arose.

"I felt it was equally important to serve the country, whether I was enlisted or an officer," Singh said.

He was assigned to the 440<sup>th</sup> Operational Support Flight and rose to the rank of senior airman. His officer opportunity popped up earlier this year.

He went to the Academy of Military Science at McGhee-Tyson ANG Base, Tenn., for the intensive, six-week course leading to a commission and promotion to second lieutenant, graduating April 23. Col. Michael Pierce, 440<sup>th</sup> vice commander, and Capt. Kyle Cioffero, Singh's OIC, were on hand to pin on his gold bars. Singh will still be assigned to the 440<sup>th</sup> OSF.

"My case should represent that it can be done at a later age," Singh, 37, said of his AMS graduation, emphasizing the course's rigorous, challenging physical requirements.

For the record, Singh was born in India; his native language is Hindi.

When he was 13, his father, who was a professor of atmospheric sciences at the time, moved the family to Brazil. That's where Singh learned to speak Portuguese, the native language. He emigrated to the U.S. in 1988.

Following is his curriculum vitae (in part):

- Ph.D., electrical and computer engineering (quantum electronics emphasis), University of Cincinnati, 1994.

- M.S. degree, digital signal processing, University of Cincinnati, 1990.

- M.B.A. degree, University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign, 1998.

- M.S. degree, financial mathematics, University of Chicago, 2001.



Tarkeshwar Singh

"I felt it was equally important to serve the country, whether I was enlisted or an officer,"

2nd Lt. Tarkeshwar Singh

While enrolled in his enlisted technical school in 2001, he taught investing, computer database building and "Fast Math" to classmates after hours. His initiative earned him an Air Force Achievement Medal.

Singh works for Quiet Light Trading, a member of the Chicago Board of Trade, as a quantitative analyst (mathematical modeling) and chief technology officer (IT). He and wife Christine and son Kevin live in Chicago.

Editor's note: Two other members of the 104 graduates in Singh's AMS class had 440<sup>th</sup> ties. Both entered the course as staff sergeants. Second Lt. Patricia Birschbach will remain a member of the 34<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron. Second Lt. Jeff Schoen, 440<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Office, is now an individual mobilization augmentee assigned to the Pentagon.

## DIVERSITY: Seeing things from a different perspective.

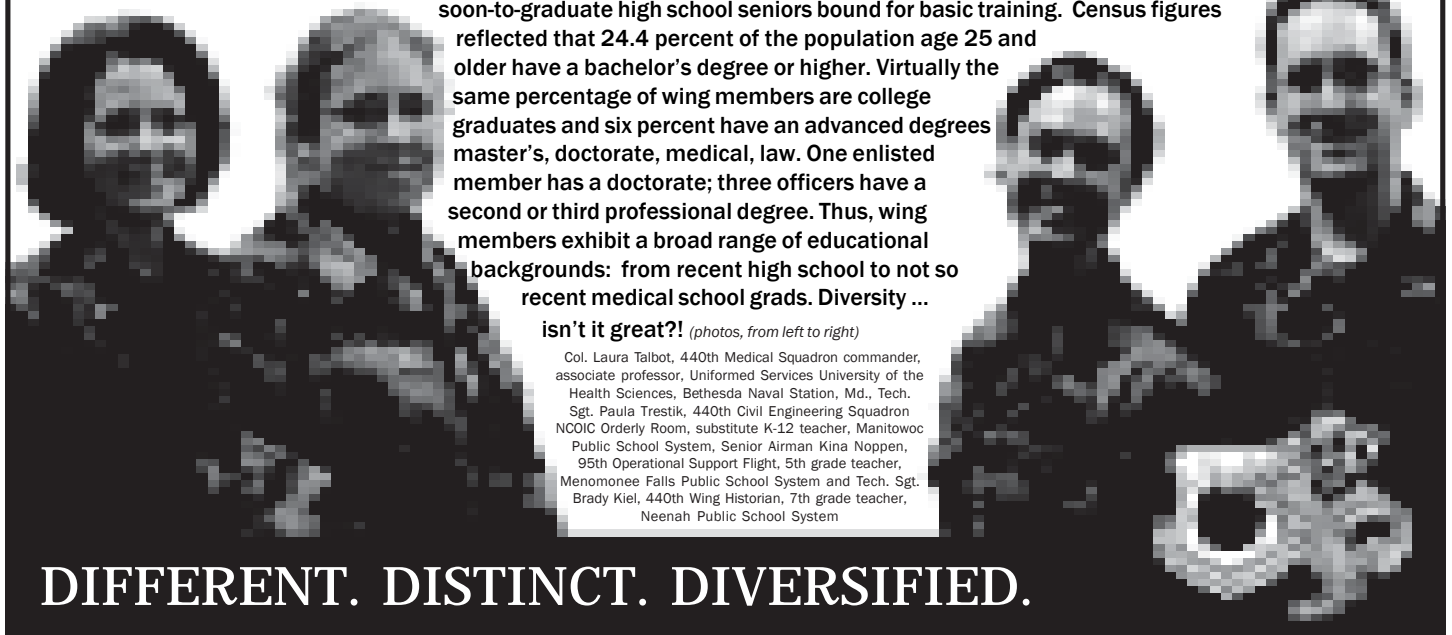
Those who comprise the 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing are well educated. That conclusion comes from a comparison of wing statistics with figures from the 2000 U.S. census. Census statistics showed that 80.4 percent of citizens age 25 and older graduated from high school. All but 15 of the wing's 1,350 members are high school graduates or GED certified and 10 of those are

soon-to-graduate high school seniors bound for basic training. Census figures

reflected that 24.4 percent of the population age 25 and older have a bachelor's degree or higher. Virtually the same percentage of wing members are college graduates and six percent have an advanced degree: master's, doctorate, medical, law. One enlisted member has a doctorate; three officers have a second or third professional degree. Thus, wing members exhibit a broad range of educational backgrounds: from recent high school to not so recent medical school grads. Diversity ...

isn't it great?! (photos, from left to right)

Col. Laura Talbot, 440<sup>th</sup> Medical Squadron commander, associate professor, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda Naval Station, Md., Tech. Sgt. Paula Trestik, 440<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron NCOIC Orderly Room, substitute K-12 teacher, Manitowoc Public School System, Senior Airman Kina Noppen, 95<sup>th</sup> Operational Support Flight, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Menomonee Falls Public School System and Tech. Sgt. Brady Kiel, 440<sup>th</sup> Wing Historian, 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Neenah Public School System



DIFFERENT. DISTINCT. DIVERSIFIED.



## Prior service recruit says loud "Thank you!"

Thank you 440th! This is my third year of a six year enlistment. After serving 12 years in the Illinois Air Guard, I decided to get out and be a "stay at home mom" on weekends supporting my husband in his Electronics Installation (EI) jaunts around the globe.

My recruiter, Alan, was thrilled to call me up just a week after 9-11 and hear me say "Yes, I still intend to reenlist." I had concerns switching from Guard to Reserve and after a 13 year break I knew there would be changes I would have to adopt. I had to take off two stripes to come back in, knowing I would get them back when I retired was fine. A lot of work went into those stripes so it wasn't totally easy taking them off...and of course the comfort levels of the past...were past.

I thank those who have served the war effort, most especially those serving in the war zone. My prayers are always with you and I look for your safe return. I thank billeting and our unit administration personnel for juggling schedules and rooms for those of us, like me, who live 50 miles or more away. While it is hard being away from common amenities and comforts of home, it is appreciated that you do all you can to give us what we ask for or need.

I thank those who created "Newcomers", it is a good program that not only consolidates and expedites training needs for newly assigned personnel but also gives you a chance to develop references/relationships to people in other units. In that two weekend program, I made no less than 12 acquaintances or points of contact in eight units!

I thank our Base Education offices for helping me to finally complete my CCAF degree program. Of course I had to get the classes done to fulfill the requirements but it is great to have accomplished this feat, something I started in the Guard and now have completed through the reserves! I thank my supervisors and peers for guiding me, trusting me, and believing in me. While all duties performed may not always flow perfectly I do appreciate the guidance (grace) given to grow and move forward in the job being performed. I have been made to feel apart of the organization I serve and I enjoy working with the Military Personnel Flight members!

I also express thanks enough or tell you how honored my family was that our Wing Commander, Col Michael Smith, and our 440<sup>th</sup> Military Personnel Flight Commander, Lt. Col. Scott Brickerd, attended the celebration of my son's Eagle Scout Award. Their presence and support will always be key in that day's celebration. I am proud to serve as a member of the 440<sup>th</sup> and thank all of you for your support!

*Staff Sgt. Kim Craddock*

## New recruits join wing

**Name:**  
Kim Veatour Swensen

**Age:** 44

**Residence:**  
Gurnee, Ill.

**Family:**  
Married with three daughters and one granddaughter

**Employment:**  
Nursing; flexible staffing at a long term care facility, as well as PRN staffing via nursing agencies

**Education:**  
Nursing/Administration; CMA, LPN and RN/AND programs, in Florida and Mississippi respectively. My nursing experience has included such specialties as pulmonary, sleep, psychiatric, and internal medicine

**Career Goal:**  
Masters degree in nursing and a bachelors degree in political science

**Military Commitment:**  
Enlisted February 1980-84, Air Force active duty working in law enforcement, reenlisted in November 1987-94; 1994-99 Air Force active and inactive reserve respectively, working in fire protection; reenlisted in March 2004 in the health services as an optometry technician.

**Recruitment Rationale:**  
Initially, I joined the Air Force to travel to other regions in the world. Since then, I have returned to the Air Force to enjoy the camaraderie that is unique to the military, continue to travel, and ultimately, retire from the Air Force Reserve.



### Why AFRC:

There are tremendous benefits to the Air Force Reserve, including education and retirement. Also, I was fortunate having terrific service from my recruiter, Technical Sgt. Winston Cagadas, who certainly made the process agreeable.

**Name:** Ashley N. Morgan

**Age:** 19

**Residence:** Chicago, Ill.

**Employment:**  
Wishbone Restaurant in downtown Chicago

**Education:**  
High School graduate

**Career Goal:**  
I would like to be a psychologist in the future.

**Military Commitment:**  
Enlisted 20 April 2004 in 3E0X1 career field (Electrical Systems Apprentice)

**Recruitment Rationale:**  
I don't have any family in the military. However, I have a friend in the Marines who inspired me of joining the Air Force Reserve. He recently just returned from the Middle East and I admire what he has done for his country. Following my own path, I decided to serve my country by joining the Air Force Reserve. My family and friends are proud of me and I get a 100 percent support from them.

### Why AFRC:

It's a win win to have both worlds. It's nice to have the ability to see different places knowing that I am still coming back home. Education benefits are great and getting trained with pay is awesome. Air Force Reserve is the BEST!

440th Airlift Wing  
Office of Public Affairs  
300 East College Avenue  
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